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[Inclosure.]

*The outbreak of bubonic plague.*HONGKONG, *March 28, 1898.*

A return showing the number of cases of bubonic plague which have been reported as occurring in the colony from January 1 to 25, instant, and the number of deaths therefrom during the same period, has been issued by Dr. Francis W. Clark, acting secretary of the sanitary board. Up till noon on the 24th instant, 181 cases were reported, 3 of which were discovered during the preceding twenty-four hours. During the same period, 154 deaths occurred from the disease, 2 being reported during the preceding twenty-four hours. The following is the weekly abstract of cases up to March 19, 1898:

Week ended January 1, no cases, no deaths; January 8, 2 cases, 1 death; January 15, no cases, no deaths; January 22, 2 cases, 2 deaths; January 29, 2 cases, 4 deaths; February 5, 5 cases, 3 deaths; February 12, 5 cases, 5 deaths; February 19, 9 cases, 6 deaths; February 26, 46 cases, 42 deaths; March 5, 22 cases, 17 deaths; March 12, 16 cases, 12 deaths; March 19, 31 cases, 28 deaths.

At a confidential meeting of the sanitary board, held after the ordinary meeting on Thursday last, health districts Nos. 2, 4, 5, and 6, of the city of Victoria were declared infected with bubonic plague, under the provisions of by-law 25, made under section 13 of ordinance 15 of 1894.

JAPAN.

*Sanitary report from Yokohama.*YOKOHAMA, *April 11, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith my regular report of infectious disease in Japan for period March 24 to April 10, inclusive:

From March 1 to the present date there have been 28 cases of choleraic disease reported in Tokyo, with but a very trifling mortality, none of which were clearly identified as genuine cholera.

During the same period, 6 cases of similar nature have been returned from Yokohama, with 1 death, the comma bacillus having been found by Professor Kitasato in the fatal case and in one other, but in these only. This was a week ago, and so far no more cases have been reported either of pseudo-cholera or of the real disease.

Plague is increasing in Formosa, from which district the official returns probably include but a part of the cases actually occurring. But two of the numerous prefectures, into which the island is divided, remain free from infection.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Report of infectious disease in Japan from March 24 to April 10, 1898.

Locality.	Cholera.		Dysentery.		Smallpox.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Kioto Fu.....						
Osaka Fu.....			3		1	
Tokyo Fu.....			11			
Aichi Ken.....			3			
Akita Ken.....			2		1	
Awamori Ken.....					4	
Chiba Ken.....			4		3	
Fukui Ken.....			1	1		
Fukuoka Ken.....					1	
Fukushima Ken.....					27	1
Gifu Ken.....			1			
Gumma Ken.....			8			
Hiogo Ken.....						
Hiroshima Ken.....			1	1		
Ibaraki Ken.....						
Ishikawa Ken.....						
Iwate Ken.....					3	
Kagawa Ken.....						
Kagoshima Ken.....						
Kanagawa Ken.....	2	1	3			
Kochi Ken.....						
Kumamoto Ken.....						
Miyagi Ken.....			1		15	3
Miyazaki Ken.....						
Miye Ken.....						
Nagano Ken.....						
Nagasaki Ken.....						
Nara Ken.....						
Niigata Ken.....						
Oita Ken.....						
Okayama Ken.....			2	1	1	
Okinawa Ken.....						
Saga Ken.....						
Saitama Ken.....			3	1		
Shidzuoka Ken.....			1			
Shiga Ken.....			1			
Shimane Ken.....					1	
Tochigi Ken.....						
Tokushima Ken.....						
Tottori Ken.....						
Toyama Ken.....						
Wakayama Ken.....			1			
Yamagata Ken.....			1		5	
Yamaguchi Ken.....						
Yamanashi Ken.....			1	1	2	
Yehime Ken.....					7	
The Hokkaido.....					24	1
Taiwan (Formosa).....	a 146	a 47				2
Total.....						

a Plague.

Report of infectious diseases in Japan for the year 1897.

YOKOHAMA, April 10, 1898.

SIR: I have the honor to notify you that the sanitary bureau of the Japanese home department has just published the following statistics of the occurrence of infectious diseases in Japan proper, during 1897. You will notice that the total number of cases of dysentery, now given, is somewhat greater than as stated in the preliminary report of the bureau on the same disease, forwarded to you on January 27.

Report of infectious diseases in Japan for the year 1897—Continued.

Diseases.	Cases.	Deaths.
Cholera.....	894	488
Dysentery.....	91,077	23,189
Typhoid fever.....	26,926	5,838
Smallpox.....	41,946	12,276
Typhus fever.....	58	23
Scarlet fever.....	37	3
Diphtheritis.....	15,486	5,579
Plague.....	a 1	a 1

a In quarantine.

I am, sir,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

AUSTRALIA—*New South Wales—Brisbane.*—Month of February, 1898. Estimated population, 105,734. Total number of deaths, 110, including diphtheria, 2; typhoid fever, 2; phthisis pulmonalis, 5, and whooping cough, 3.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.*—The deaths registered in 33 great towns in England and Wales during the week ended April 23 correspond to an annual rate of 18.1 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 11,218,378. The highest rate was recorded in Sunderland, viz, 24.6, and the lowest in Croydon, viz, 8.4.

London.—One thousand five hundred and forty-six deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 131; scarlet fever, 10; diphtheria, 31; whooping cough, 53; enteric fever, 5, and diarrhea and dysentery, 10. The deaths from all causes correspond to an annual rate of 17.9 a thousand. In greater London 1,976 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 16.1 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included 22 from measles, 2 from scarlet fever, 16 from diphtheria, and 10 from whooping cough.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended April 23 in the 23 principal town districts of Ireland was 18.1 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Ballymena, viz, 5.6, and the highest in Galway, viz, 56.7 a thousand. In Dublin and suburbs 156 deaths were registered, including enteric fever, 2; scarlet fever, 5; whooping cough, 2, and 1 from diphtheria.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended April 23 correspond to an annual rate of 22.0 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,568,536. The lowest mortality was recorded in Leith, viz, 13.6, and the highest in Perth, viz, 28.9